

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	25X1A
SUBJECT	CDU Meeting at Erfurt	DATE DISTR.	18 May 1954	
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SOURCE:

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1. On 19 March 1954, a conference of Kreis chairmen of the CDU organizations of Bezirk Erfurt was held in Erfurt. At this conference the IVth SED Congress in Berlin was discussed. The discussion was wound up by a statement that the East German CDU recognized the leading role played by the SED in East Germany. Like the SED, the CDU professed socialism and the economic ideas of Marx and Engels. Source stated that Pastor Delfs from Hainrode, a SED member, had pointed out that Christians had a wider scope of activity in a socialist state. In this respect Delfs referred to Heinemann's Gesamtdeutsche Volkspartei in West Germany.
2. All CDU functionaries who attended the conference at Erfurt were obliged to comment in writing on the following topics:
 - a. The article published by CDU Secretary General Goetting in the CDU press under the heading "The IVth SED Congress";
 - b. Draft of the new SED statute;
 - c. What does the CDU expect of the IVth SED Congress?

It was resolved that these topics were to be discussed at party rallies by all locals of the CDU.

3. The chairman of the meeting denounced the indifference prevailing among the CDU membership. He pointed out that only 10 percent of the 900 party members in Weimar attended party rallies although 516 of them were government officials. The speaker demanded that these indifferent elements should be eliminated from government employment since they were so grossly negligent in the fulfillment of their duties towards the party. Orders had been given that Kreis secretaries of the SED be henceforth invited to conferences of the CDU Kreis delegates. It was furthermore stated that CDU factory groups were to be dissolved. The recognition of the SED as the leading party in East Germany ruled out a predominant position of CDU factory groups in industrial enterprises. The members of deactivated CDU factory groups were to be organized into 10-man groups within local CDU organizations.

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